Application No.: 10/037,475 2 Docket No.: 09619/000L117-US0

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 16 with the following amended paragraph:

Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. <u>08-255342</u> H8-255342, discloses attaining low noise by forming a granular recording layer in which ferromagnetic grains are dispersed in a non-magnetic film, by a method including steps of sequentially depositing a non-magnetic film, a ferromagnetic film and a non-magnetic film on a non-magnetic substrate, and heat treating the laminate. In this specific non-magnetic film, oxides or nitrides of silicon are used.